

# R M P News

*Andrews Management Unit  
Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area*

*September 2003*



## **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLANNING SCHEDULE**

To date, planning efforts for the Andrews Management Unit/Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (AMU/CMPA) are on track and scheduled for final completion in October 2004. Please see the following planning schedule for important dates:

Notice of Availability Published in the Federal Register .....	September 19, 2003
DRAFT Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) Available to the Public .....	September 19, 2003
DRAFT RMP/EIS Public Meetings.....	October 27-30, 2003
90-Day Comment Period Closing Date .....	December 17, 2003- January 5, 2004
Proposed Final RMP/EIS Release .....	April 2004
30-Day Protest Period Closing Date .....	May 2004
FINAL RMP/EIS Available to the Public.....	October 2004

## **RMP FORMAT DESCRIPTION**

The RMP/EIS will be a 2-volume document with the main text in Volume 1 and supplemental information such as maps and appendices in Volume 2. The entire document will be available on the internet, on compact disc (CD), and in hard copy. Selected maps will be published in hard copy, and all maps will be available on CD. For those who have already requested a copy of the Draft RMP/EIS, the document will be sent to you in the format you specified.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has selected Alternative D as its preferred alternative. This alternative emphasizes natural resource use, protection, and environmental health and places high importance on balancing cultural, economic, ecological and social values. This would be done within the limits of the natural system's ability to provide commodities on a sustainable basis and within the constraints of laws and regulations, including the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act as it pertains to the Steens Mountain CMPA. This alternative encourages cooperative management of the planning area by collaborative arrangements with landowners, permit holders, other land managers, and interested parties.

The Final RMP/EIS will consist of two plans and two Records of Decision (RODs), one each for the AMU and the CMPA.



## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

Following the release of the Draft RMP/EIS in September, four public meetings will be held to provide opportunities for comment. Meeting logistics are:

October 27, 2003 .....	Portland, Oregon .....	6-9:00pm
	Downtown Marriot - 520 SW Broadway	
October 28, 2003 .....	Bend, Oregon .....	6-9:00pm
	Riverhouse Resort - 3075 N Hwy 97	
October 29, 2003 .....	Burns, Oregon .....	6-9:00pm
	Harney County Senior Center - 17 S Alder Avenue	
October 30, 2003....	Frenchglen, Oregon .....	6-9:00pm
	Frenchglen School - Highway 205	

Each meeting will be "open-house" style where participants can discuss issues with BLM resource specialists. During the meetings, formal comments can be submitted in writing or taken verbatim by a court recorder. Written comments outside the meetings may be submitted to the Burns District BLM or to the Andrews/Steens planning Web site at the addresses listed on the reverse.